



## Managed Meadow Restoration Project



Courtesy of Shenandoah National Park

### Want to Help?

There will be several volunteer dates throughout the spring and early summer to help us plant new grasses and flowers. To learn more or to sign up for a volunteer date contact the Anacostia Watershed Society at:

301-699-6204 or the National Park Service at: 202-426-7723.

Also,

The success of the meadow depends on you the visitor. We need your help, please do NOT trample or disturb the area and keep your dog on a leash (the herbicide is toxic, but not fatal).

### What:

The National Park Service is developing several managed meadows throughout Fort Dupont Park. Managed Meadows create environments for several park animals, including birds, rabbits, and foxes. The meadows will help bridge a gap between the mature forest in the park with open green space that is normally mowed.

### When:

The process will take up the rest of the 2011 calendar year. Phase 1) kill the non-native and toxic grass, phase 2) plant native grass and flowers, phase 3) maintain and protect the area against potential invasive and exotic plants that ravage the native plants.

### Who:

The National Park Service along with its partners, Center for Urban Ecology and the Anacostia Watershed Society.

### More Info:

Contact Thomas Safranek at:  
202-426-7723

The lush beauty of a meadow inspires a natural simplicity, yet meadow ecology is one of the most complex sciences. John Muir described the Sierra Nevada's intricate meadows as "so complete that you cannot see the ground and, at the same time, so brightly enameled with flowers and butterflies that it may well be called a garden-meadow, or meadow-garden." Meadows are sponges, absorbing water as snowpack melts and holding that water like an underground water tower. The meadow here, at Lanham Estates will help filter the city's rain water before dumping into Anacostia River and protect the Hiker/Biker trail below the meadow from heavy rainfall.